

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGE
DIANA BAUTISTA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the many contributions of Judge Diana Bautista.

Judge Bautista works day after day for the betterment of the 40,000 members of Atascosa County in Texas. It is because of people like her that the legislation we do on this very floor is able to run the country so efficiently. Through her post as Judge of Atascosa County, Diana Bautista works for the betterment of the people in the community that she so vigorously serves.

Judge Bautista's service did not begin with her current position as a county judge; she has held other public service positions in law enforcement. She has been an official of the Pleasanton Police Department and the Atascosa County Sheriff's Office where she ensured the safety of the general public. It was during her tenure with public service offices such as these that she gained the necessary experience to understand what the people of Atascosa County need.

In 2002, she was elected to her post as the Atascosa County Judge, and has served there ever since. Judge Bautista always puts the people of Atascosa County first in whatever she does. She serves on numerous committees throughout the area to make sure her constituents are getting all the necessary tools from the local government they need.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Atascosa County Judge Diana Bautista.

IN HONOR OF ALBERT O'NEILL JR.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Albert O'Neill Jr. upon his nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Mr. O'Neill Jr. is a patient care volunteer with Delaware Hospice and a member of the Delaware Lions Foundation. Mr. O'Neill Jr. is instrumental in collecting donated items and distributing them throughout the world to persons in need.

Since 1998, Mr. O'Neill has donated over 15,000 pairs of shoes and over 1.2 million pounds of donated items. Mr. O'Neill's efforts have meant that thousands of needy people have not gone without.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Mr. O'Neill Jr. upon his nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. Mr. O'Neill's selflessness serves as an example to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO JANICE Y. JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Janice Y. Jones in recognition of her strong commitment to her family and dedication to educating our children.

Janice Y. Jones was born in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York to James and Clara Jones. At the age of five the family moved to East New York, where Janice attended local public schools, P.S. 159, I.S. 218 and Franklin Lane High School. Janice won a scholarship to Connecticut College. After a year at Connecticut, she returned home to help her mother care for her three younger brothers due to the death of her father.

Janice went back to Lane where she was hired as an Educational Assistant. She went through the Career Training Program and obtained her degree from York College and her Teaching License.

During her tenure at Lane, she worked closely with the activities director, the guidance department and was one of the coaches for the cheerleading squad. She accompanied her mother to numerous community and school meetings as well.

Although Lane did not have a teaching position for Janice, Transit Tech High School hired her as a Special Education Teacher. After one year of teaching, Janice became the Coordinator of Student Activities at Transit Tech. The title included many duties such as the leadership program for students, senior activities, the Transit Tech Volunteer Program, SkillsUSA (VICA), and a parent and community liaison.

She worked closely with and underwent training by the Anti-Defamation League, the National Conference of Community, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Education Conflict Resolution and Negotiation Team where she now is a trainer herself. Janice has served on the Board of Trustees for New York City VICA and as the Vice Chairperson of the New York State VICA Board of Trustees.

Janice is very devoted to her students and tries to encourage them to reach for greatness and realize their potential. When time allows, she is also an active volunteer in the community.

Mr. Speaker, Janice Y. Jones has dedicated herself to her community and to educating our children. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONGRATULATING THE FRIENDLY
SONS OF ST. PATRICK OF
LACKAWANNA COUNTY ON THEIR
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to a group of men from the past and present who are part of a proud tradition in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Lackawanna County will celebrate its 100th anniversary on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2005.

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick is a group of men who gets together each year on St. Patrick's Day to partake in dinner and camaraderie in a celebration of the Irish-American experience. The Friendly Sons dinners are a tradition in Lackawanna County that have grown considerably since the first one in 1906—from about 80 men in 1906 to 1,200 this year. This year's dinner was sold out months in advance.

The Friendly Sons had its beginning as the Irish-American Society of Lackawanna County, formed by Judge Edward F. Blewitt, former Scranton Diocese Bishop M.J. Hoban, Col. F.J. Fitzsimmons and Scranton Times publisher E.J. Lynett. The organization wanted a more formal way to mark St. Patrick's Day than with the parades in downtown Scranton.

The Lackawanna County group called itself the Irish-American Society until 1940. Members felt that a hyphenated name was no longer appropriate. World War II was just beginning and the organization wanted to have people united as Americans, not identified because of their descent.

For the first few years, the dinner took place at the old Hotel Jermyn. It moved to the former Hotel Casey in 1911, where it remained for 60 years. As time went on, the Friendly Sons had to find another venue because the Hotel Casey could not accommodate the expanding guest list. Some attendees were even forced to sit in the hotel coffee shop or in the nearby Preno's Restaurant and watch the evening's festivities on tiny television monitors.

Eventually, the dinner moved again—this time to St. Mary's Center and then in 1984 to Genetti Manor in Dickson City, where it has been held since.

The dinner has earned quite a reputation for hosting one notable speaker after another. Typically, the organization tries to have two main speakers—a lay person and a member of the clergy. The list of prominent names dates back to the dinner's 1909 speaker, John Mitchell, revered labor leader and international president of United Mineworkers of America.

President Harry S. Truman spoke at the dinner twice—in 1943 and 1956. In 1943, he was a little-known senator from Missouri who spoke about foreign policy during the Cold

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

War. When he came back to the Friendly Sons dinner in 1956, he had served two terms as president.

Perhaps the most notable speaker came in 1964. The Friendly Sons dinner was the first public appearance made by then-U.S. attorney general Robert F. Kennedy following the assassination of his brother, President John F. Kennedy. In September of that year, Robert Kennedy resigned to run for the U.S. Senate in New York. A column written 10 years later by one of his aides stated that Mr. Kennedy made his decision to remain in public service because of the amazing support and outpouring of affection shown to him in Scranton as 2,000 people lined the streets to greet him.

Many politicians have spoken at the Friendly Sons dinner. Beginning with John K. Tener in 1911 and including our current governor, Ed Rendell, in 2003, almost all Pennsylvania governors have attended the dinner, including Lackawanna County residents William W. Scranton and the late Robert P. Casey, who himself was a member of the Friendly Sons.

My good friend former U.S. Rep. Joseph McDade, also a Friendly Sons member, spoke in 1986. U.S. senators, including Eugene McCarthy, Henry "Scoop" Jackson, John Glenn, and Delaware's JOSEPH BIDEN—a native of Scranton—have spoken at the dinner.

Guests from abroad have also graced the stage, including former Irish Prime Ministers Garret FitzGerald and Albert Reynolds, Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and British Parliament member Martin McGuinness.

The Friendly Sons organization has about 900 members and elects officers each year. The president has the intimidating job of organizing the dinner and arranging for the speaker.

This year's president is Dr. Joseph T. Kelly Sr. and the speaker is Alex Maskey, the first Catholic mayor of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives in congratulating the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick of Lackawanna County, an organization steeped in rich traditions, as they celebrate their 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE WE THE PEOPLE CIVICS TEAM FROM FREMONT, CALIFORNIA'S IRVINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the 2005 "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" class of Fremont, California's Irvington High School in my district for winning the state championship in January.

The We the People competition is an educational program administered by the Center for Civic Education of Los Angeles and funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The main focus of the program is to commemorate the framing and adoption of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and to revitalize educational programs on the Constitution in our Nation's schools. It provides a course of instruction on the basic principles of our Nation's constitutional democracy and the history of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Participants

then enter into competitive simulated congressional hearings following the course of study.

Students who wish to participate in the program must go through an interview process the year prior to the start of the class. The applicants must answer questions similar to the ones they will be asked during competition.

Accepted applicants learn and familiarize themselves with current event topics along with curriculum taught in the class. There are six different areas that are taught in the course and each participant must become an expert in each and every area.

The participants prepare for several months before testifying to a panel made up of judges representing the community. The judges ask detailed follow-up questions regarding the presentation, which require the students to think quickly and provide spontaneous answers. They compete first at two competitions at the local level before going to the state championships. Those who win at the state level go on to compete nationally.

In January, students from ten schools representing various areas of California came to Sacramento to compete in the state We the People championship. I am proud to say that the Irvington High School team, coached by their teacher Mrs. Cook-Kallio, won the competition and will be representing California during the national finals, which will be held from April 30th through May 3rd here, in Washington, DC.

The victory reflects the hard work and dedication these students put together after about nine months of preparation. The Irvington team spent countless hours in and out of class getting ready for the competition. Most groups stayed past 10 p.m. on some nights to take part in practice sessions where their teacher, Mrs. Cook-Kallio, along with other teachers and alumni of Irvington High School, drilled them on their subjects to try and simulate the environment of the competition.

I applaud the We the People class, Mrs. Cook-Kallio, and Irvington High School in reaching the national finals and am honored to have them represent the state of California at the national level. I join with other admirers and members in the community of Fremont in wishing the team luck. I hope to be giving another congratulatory speech once they become National champions.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BEXAR COUNTY CONSTABLE ROBERT "MIKE" BLOUNT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Constable Robert Blount in my congressional district, for his exceptional career in law enforcement.

Robert Blount was elected as Constable of Precinct Four in January 2005, but has been actively serving his community for the last sixteen years. He believes in establishing a solid law enforcement agency that is committed to the needs of the community, and has devoted his department to serve the public through honesty and integrity.

Constable Blount is an excellent example of an elected official who understands the needs of his community. The mission for his department is to promote safety in the community by enforcing court orders, supporting early intervention activities, and to work together with neighboring law enforcement agencies.

Constable Blount is a man who believes in the value of community involvement and intervention. Currently he is focusing his department on lowering truancy levels and high school dropout rates, reducing neighborhood crime, and maintaining clear communication within the people in his community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Bexar County Constable Robert "Mike" Blount for his dedication and service to the community.

IN HONOR OF AUDREY HOPE-MILTON

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Audrey Hope-Milton upon her nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Ms. Hope-Milton is a volunteer to the Stop the Violence Coalition, as the program administrator for the Playstation Too Mentoring Program. Ms. Hope-Milton is predominately concerned with the health, welfare and safety of young people and takes great care to make sure that they are not overlooked or forgotten.

Ms. Hope-Milton's passion for volunteer work comes from a religious family legacy of working with today's youth. Ms. Hope-Milton's success is a result of her giving back what was given to her. Ms. Hope-Milton's tireless efforts to help young people have touched the lives of many in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Ms. Hope-Milton upon her nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. Ms. Hope-Milton's selflessness serves as an example to us all.

DEATH OF AGENT DAVID WILHELM

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agent David Wilhelm who was killed by a gunman in Atlanta, Georgia this past weekend. I join Agent Wilhelm's family, including the law enforcement community in America, in mourning the tragic loss of Agent Wilhelm.

Mr. Wilhelm dedicated his 18-year career in law enforcement to protecting America. He was one of the many men and women who put their lives on the line every single day, no matter what the danger. He was one of the good guys who helped to make America safer by putting away the bad guys. His specialty was investigating financial crimes, narcotics smuggling, and human smuggling.

Agent Wilhelm's service was distinguished. He was awarded the 2001 Blue Eagle Award for his work on a narcotics investigation—Operation Prospero. Mr. Wilhelm received the award because he went far beyond the call of duty. Indeed, he was the sole recipient of the award in 2001.

Agent Wilhelm's service will not be forgotten. His service will be remembered every day as our law enforcement officers continue his work, carrying on the mission Agent Wilhelm loved so much and did so well.

I would also like to extend my sincere sympathies to the families of Superior Court Judge Rowland Barnes, Julie Brandau, and Hoyt Teasley, who were killed at the Fulton County Courthouse. Our hearts go out to their families and loved ones as well. Their lives will be remembered in the work we do here in Congress.

CHINA'S ANTI-SECESSION LAW

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, late last year, the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress took a very destabilizing action when it voted to submit an "Anti-Secession Law" to the full Congress, which convened on March 5. That Anti-Secession Law was subsequently adopted by the full Congress and is now Chinese law.

There can be absolutely no doubt about the intent of this law, which is to create the legal justification for a military attack against Taiwan.

The law spells out a range of activities which, if taken by the Taiwanese people and their democratically elected leaders, would legally constitute secession to the Chinese. Many of these activities, such as Constitutional reform and popular referenda, are the mainstay of any democracy. Yet the Chinese would use them as an excuse for a military attack on the 21 million people on Taiwan.

The United States fully understands Taiwan is in a very difficult bind. It is a flourishing democracy, one of the most vibrant in Asia, with freedoms of speech, the press and assembly and intensely competitive free political parties. Yet it is claimed as a sovereign territory by the People's Republic of China, which is not a democracy and has no freedom of the press, speech or assembly. And this neighbor now threatens to annex Taiwan by force.

Under the terms of the Taiwan Relations Act, which is the legal bedrock of our policy, the United States insists that the future of Taiwan must be determined by peaceful means. And we have stated that no actions should be taken by either Taiwan or the People's Republic of China, that endanger the peace and stability that now exists across the Taiwan Strait.

Mr. Speaker, during the past year, the Bush Administration cautioned Taiwan about actions which might appear to challenge this status quo. Now the PRC, through this provocative legislation, is challenging the status quo in a very big way. The State Department said this legislation is highly unhelpful. I strongly agree with this position and register my strong opposition to the enactment of the Anti-Secession Law.

IN HONOR OF JENNIFER CROUSE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Jennifer Crouse upon her nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Ms. Crouse is the founder of Fun Packs. Fun Packs are for use by children patients at area hospitals to help young children through difficult times in their lives. In 2001, the program was expanded to include Care Packs, which were distributed to service people who were deployed through the Dover Air Force base. Ms. Crouse has volunteered within the community for more than 10 years, and has logged more than 3,200 volunteer hours.

Ms. Crouse's volunteer efforts have touched the lives of many in our community. Ms. Crouse is a deserving candidate for the Jefferson Award.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Ms. Crouse upon her nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. Ms. Crouse is truly worthy of this honor.

A TRIBUTE TO BEATRICE JACKSON-WALLS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Beatrice Jackson-Walls in recognition of her commitment to her church and her community.

Beatrice is a vivacious, effervescent Virginia Belle. A member of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Brooklyn for 57 years, she has dedicated her teenage and young adult life to serving in the Youth Fellowship, Young People's Choir and as a teacher in the Baptist Training Union, Junior Department.

Professionally, Beatrice serves Cornerstone Baptist Church as a skillful efficient Administrative Assistant and has had the honor and pleasure of working with three spiritual giants: the late Pastor Emeritus, Reverend Dr. Sandy F. Ray; the Reverend Dr. Harry S. Wright; and her present Pastor, the Reverend Lawrence E. Aker, III.

Artistically, Beatrice is a gifted soprano soloist in the Senior Choir and has performed in concerts throughout the New York Metropolitan area, including Carnegie Recital Hall and the prestigious St. Peters Church in Manhattan. A past Sunday School Teacher, she continues to utilize her educational and volunteer leadership skills as Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Cornerstone Day Care Center, Inc., Chair of Special Projects of the Capital Fund Raising Committee, President of the Senior Choir, Corresponding Secretary of the Brooklyn Ecumenical Choir of Bedford Stuyvesant, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Food Pantry. She also served on the Board of Directors of the American Lung Association of Brooklyn.

A product of the school systems in Virginia and Delaware, she pursued her education at New York Community College (now New York Technical College) in Brooklyn. She is the re-

cipient of numerous religious, community and business awards and honors. Her hobbies include stained glass designing, traveling, serving, gardening, poetry and people.

God blessed her with 39 years of marriage to the late Deacon Joseph M. Walls. She is mother of two sons, Joseph Demetrius and Darryl Christopher and the grandmother of three of the most precious and special children, Jasmyne Marie, D. Christopher II, and Amara Aurellia.

Mr. Speaker, Beatrice Jackson-Walls has strengthened her community through her numerous volunteer efforts with her church. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONER SUSIE CARTER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many accomplishments of Hays County Commissioner Susie Carter.

Susie Carter is a proud lifelong citizen of Hays County. She and her husband, John, live on the same farm where Susie grew up. She earned degrees from Southwest Texas State University and the University of Texas at Austin, and returned to rural Hays County to serve her neighbors.

Susie has served Hays County in a variety of capacities: as a health professional, college instructor, character education consultant, and public servant. She was elected President of the Concerned Taxpayers of Hays County, and remains an advocate for taxpayer rights and fiscal responsibility.

As county commissioner, Susie has consistently worked to make Hays County a better place to live. She led the reconstruction of some of the county's worst roads, installed traffic signals to make intersections safer, passed resolutions to protect the local environment and water supply, and fought against illegal dumping. She has been an advocate for low taxes and budget discipline, and a watchdog for the rights of taxpaying citizens and local government. Susie Carter has been a farsighted and effective advocate for her county.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this opportunity to recognize the many achievements of Hays County Commissioner Susie Carter.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL PATRICK HINCHEY ON BEING NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR BY THE WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the

House of Representatives to pay tribute to Michael Patrick Hinchey, who will receive the Man of the Year Award from the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2005.

Mr. Hinchey, a native of Kingston, is the son of the late John H. Hinchey Jr. and Margaret Jennings Hinchey. He has three brothers: John III, Frank and Edward.

Michael had a distinguished professional career as vice president of the Matheson Transfer Company. He is also co-owner and vice president of the Matheson Warehouse Company, where he still serves in his official capacity along with his three brothers.

Michael is a member of St. Ignatius Church in Kingston, as well as the Church's Holy Name Society. He was a past president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in 1984 and was dinner chairman in 1983. Michael is a founding Legacy Member of the Forty Fort Lions Club, an organization in which he served as president, vice president and secretary. He is a board member, golf chairman and building chairman of the Fox Hill Country Club and an active member of the Westmoreland Club as development chairman, historical committee chairman and golf club co-chairman. He is also a committee member of the Pennsylvania Movers Storage Association.

Michael is active in many service organizations, including the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, Boy Scouts, Keystone College, King's College, St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, United Way, YMCA and Wilkes University.

Michael has been married to the former Sharon Cravatta for 28 years. He is the proud father of two beautiful daughters, Westyn Layne and Collyn Michael.

Michael was raised by two wonderful parents who instilled in him a love of family and devotion to community. Michael attributes his pride in his Irish heritage to his grandfather, who was a first generation immigrant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Michael Patrick Hinchey upon being named Man of the Year by the Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

CONSTRUCTIVE DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN TURKEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we spend a great deal of time in this chamber speaking about democracy and how to ensure its continuance at home and how to instill it abroad. Encouragingly, one of our most important friends and allies, Turkey, has worked very hard over the past few years to deepen, strengthen and ensure democracy in that country.

Over the past several years Turkey has debated, in the fullness of an open legislature, measures covering human rights, foreign investment, governance, protection of minority interests, freedom of speech and association. A majority of the duly elected members of that body have voted in the affirmative to amend old laws and pass new ones. Many of these changes have been enshrined as permanent parts of Turkish law through amendments to its national constitution.

There are literally hundreds of changes but among the most important are abolition of the death penalty, ability to broadcast in minority languages, ability to be educated in minority languages and cementing civilian control over the military. While we still look forward to more improvements to their democratic infrastructure, Turkey's future looks promising.

Many of these reforms were driven by the demands of the European Union. But to be fair, and to give Turkey its due, irrespective of the reasons why there was a consideration of the need for reform, no reforms would have occurred without the political will of that nation's people and government to squarely face these issues, debate them and overturn, in some cases, policies that have been in existence since the 1923 founding of the Turkish Republic.

Last December 17th, the European Union extended the formal invitation to our friend and ally to begin discussions that will lead to eventual Turkish membership in the EU—the first predominantly Muslim nation to be so considered.

Muslim nations wrestling with the movement toward democracy. I hope all of my colleagues welcome and applaud Turkey's actions.

RECOGNIZING SANDY ALLMON ANDERSON AND HER INDUCTION INTO WOMEN IN AVIATION INTERNATIONAL PIONEER HALL OF FAME

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Sandy Allmon Anderson, from Lewisville, located in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for her contributions of women in the aviation field.

I congratulate Sandy Anderson for this outstanding achievement. Anderson helped pave the way for women in aviation. She was the first female pilot to check-out in the left seat and the captain's seat, of both the Boeing 727 and 747, first Northwest Airlines Boeing 727 female instructor and check airman, first female Fleet Check Captain among the major U.S. airlines, and the first and only female chief pilot that Northwest Airlines has ever had. Ms. Anderson is the senior female on every flight she takes and one of five females on the Boeing 747-400. She was the second female hired to Northwest Airlines some twenty-two years ago. As a fellow pilot, I recognize the dedication and continual commitment to education that flying demands.

Ms. Anderson was inducted into the Lewisville High School Hall of Fame in 2001 and honored as a Distinguished Alumni at Texas Woman's University in 1996. Sandy Anderson established and managed the first endowment fund as a founding board member representing the airline aviation industry for international organization. In the first seven years of the fund's existence, it has distributed more than \$3 million in aviation scholarships.

Today, Anderson speaks at conferences and schools to spread the message of reaching for your dreams. She has an especially close connection with the young girls who have dreams of being in traditionally male oc-

cupations. Anderson believes that these girls need support along the way if they too are to accomplish their dreams.

I am proud of representing such a heroine. Sandy Anderson is an astonishing example of a determined person who would not settle and made her dreams a reality against the odds. She is a role model not only to women but also for everyone who has obstacles to overcome in reaching their goals.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION CONDEMNING RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION AND INTOLERANCE IN INDIA

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Mr. PITTS and myself to introduce this Resolution to condemn the alleged statements and actions of complacency by the government authorities in Gujarat, led by Chief Minister Narendra Modi, in the face of the religious persecution of the Gujarati people.

In February of 2002, India experienced its greatest human rights crisis in a decade: orchestrated violence against Muslims in the state of Gujarat that claimed at least 2,000 lives in a matter of days. Three years after that horrific incident, Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat has been indicted by various Indian and International human rights organizations for lending his hand to the violence.

Mr. Modi himself has not been shy about proudly professing his anti-Christian, anti-Muslim, and anti-tribal stances. He has repeatedly dehumanized the Muslim population of his state by accusing them of treachery; he has actively sought to interfere in the practice of the Christian faith in Gujarat, and he has caused wide-scale displacement of indigenous populations in the State in the face of stiff popular resistance. I find Mr. Modi's actions to be of the most reprehensible sort.

In an article in the Hindu Times on March 2, 2005, former Indian President K.R. Narayanan stated that "there was a 'conspiracy' between the BJP governments at the Centre and the state behind the 2002 Gujarat riots . . .". Further, a number of Indian human rights organizations, international human rights organizations, and a former Supreme Court Justice all recognize Chief Minister Modi's complicity in the violence.

He has attacked Muslims and Christians with vile venom, and according to both India's highest court and many international human rights groups, has condoned terrible, violent religious hate crimes, all the while, shielding those said to have committed them. In fact, in a scathing indictment of Mr. Modi, the Supreme Court of India referred to the Chief Minister and his government as "the modern day Neros". Moreover, in a recent unprecedented order, the Supreme Court of India ordered the reopening of all the criminal cases that Mr. Modi has closed, regarding over 2000 police cases in which the non-Hindu victims filed reports of rapes, killings, and destruction of their property.

Such actions by high ranking government officials of any religion are unacceptable and must not be tolerated.

I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning religious intolerance and promoting religious freedom, so that others may see what our great democracy stands for.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
FORMER U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
WILLIAM LEHMAN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today we mark the passing of William Lehman, retired Member of this august body and exemplary human being. Mr. Lehman was born in Selma, Alabama on October 5, 1913. His reputation for honesty was developed early in life when he moved to Miami and opened a used car business. Television viewers got to know "Alabama Bill" through his commercial advertising. Auto buyers in Dade County quickly realized that he always treated his customers fairly.

In the early 1960s, he began teaching English literature in Dade County public schools, where he was highly valued and greatly respected by his colleagues and his students. Building on his success as an educator, he was elected to the school board in 1966 and became its chairman in 1970.

In 1972, Bill ran for Congress in the newly created 13th District, winning easily. From then until his retirement in 1992, he was a tireless advocate for the citizens of northeast Dade County. He quickly rose to a position of prominence in the House of Representatives, becoming chairman of the Appropriations Committee's subcommittee that oversaw highways, seaports and mass transit systems. Public transit was always important to Bill Lehman, as he knew it was a lifeline to employment, grocery shopping, doctor visits and other necessary services for poor and working class citizens.

In addition to normal Congressional business, Mr. Lehman's career in the House of Representatives was noted for many remarkable deeds. Among those were his trips to Cuba and Argentina to secure the release of political prisoners and the brave venture of smuggling an artificial heart valve into the Soviet Union to save the life of a critically ill woman. Throughout his career in Congress, Bill Lehman was known as an "unbending liberal." This is one of many characteristics that endeared him to me. He was a friend of more than thirty years, a mentor and a very important role model. By his very nature, he was a constant source of inspiration and encouragement to people who work every day to make our world a better place.

Florida, America, and the world have lost a giant with the passing of William Lehman. To paraphrase another famous American political leader known for his honesty, Abraham Lincoln, the world will greatly note and long remember the life of Bill Lehman. May he rest in peace.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF WEBB COUNTY JUDGE LOUIS
BRUNI

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell the Congress about a man who works constantly to ensure the people of Webb County Texas get the services they need from the local government. Judge Louis Bruni is and always has been committed to working for others; he is the ideal public servant.

The sixth-generation Laredoan has held multiple positions of service to the community from his first position in 1994 as a Laredo City Councilman up to his current position as the Webb County Judge. Every post Judge Louis Bruni has occupied he has pumped out results to the people he so faithfully serves. As Laredo City Councilman he played an influential role in securing funding for roads and recreational areas within his district and also was a driving force behind the construction of the city library.

In 2001 he was elected to serve as the Webb County Judge. It can be seen in this position that he currently holds how dear to his heart the people of Webb County are. He has efficiently allocated the resources of Webb County to better serve the populace in a countless number of ways. Take for instance his environmentally conscious idea of turning all carbon-based waste materials into electric power creating an extra energy source sufficient enough to power 800 additional houses. Not only is he a crusader for the proper usage of the environment, he also wants to ensure all his fellow members of Webb County get the first-class economy they deserve. His life in the public sphere should be a model for people who want to give all they can to their communities.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Bruni is not alone a public servant but also a father of two amazing children Fredick and Allison, and I am proud to that him for everything he had done for our community.

IN MEMORY OF JUNE RITCHIE
CHAMBERS, M.D.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a distinguished American, Dr. June Ritchie Chambers, who died on January 24, 2005, at the age of eighty.

June Ritchie was born in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and graduated from West Virginia University. She attended its School of Medicine before transferring to the Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, Ohio. She completed residencies in Internal Medicine and Psychiatry at Charleston Area Medical Center Memorial Hospital, practicing Psychiatry at Shawnee Hills and working as an Internal Medicine specialist as well.

June Ritchie Chambers was married to her husband John T. "Jack" Chambers, also a Charleston physician, for 57 years. In 2002,

together with their son and wife, John and Elaine Chambers, my constituents, they donated \$1.5 million to their alma mater, West Virginia University, establishing a program to train students in electronic business techniques.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deep sympathy to the family of June Ritchie Chambers and to honor her lifetime of remarkable accomplishments and service to her community and her country.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF
MRS. MARGIT WORSHAM

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Margit Worsham, a resident of the First Congressional District of Tennessee. Mrs. Worsham is being recognized for her extraordinary efforts by the Tennessee General Assembly, and I would appreciate having the opportunity to recognize her efforts here in the United States House of Representatives as well.

Margit, along with her husband Earl, has been a tireless contributor to Sevier County, Tennessee. Through her efforts she has been directly involved and/or responsible for raising over \$2,500,000 in benefits to aid those in need.

Margit has served as the Sevier County United Way Chairman, breaking fundraising records during her tenure. She has also served in a variety of capacities within the community; serving as Board Chair of the Sevier County Arts Council, Board Member of the Gatlinburg Gateway Foundation, Board member of Leadership Sevier, member of the Gatlinburg First and Lasting Impressions Committee, Board Member of the Sevier County Bear & Boar Club, and the Sevier County Representative on the Nine Counties One Vision organization. On top of that, Margit has also served as an organizing member of Gatlinburg's Fourth of July Parade, Taste of Autumn event, Vision Conference, and the Leadership Sevier Graduation Event.

While those missions should be enough to keep Margit fully occupied, she also serves with several conservation groups working to protect the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the Atlantic Salmon.

When asked to describe her personality, a fellow volunteer remarked that her enthusiasm, friendliness, positive attitude, and energy made her a natural leader. It was also noted that Margit never delegates a job she is not willing to do herself, and never asks for contributions until and unless she has done so herself.

Mr. Speaker, residents like Margit Worsham are the reason many local communities flourish. Margit, and thousands like her, contributes so much time and effort to ensure that important causes and important people continue to be assisted or protected. We should always recognize these valuable personal assets to our local communities, and I ask that the House join me in honoring this remarkable woman.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT BRANDT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Robert Brandt upon his nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. For nearly 19 years, Mr. Brandt has aided Delawareans confronting personal crisis. Mr. Brandt has logged over 8,000 hours of volunteer service and over 3,000 hours as a help line listener.

Mr. Brandt's tireless dedication to the well being of others is an inspiration to all Americans. Mr. Brandt has touched the lives of countless individuals as one of the organizations most committed rape crisis volunteers. He is a most worthy candidate for the Jefferson Award and a truly outstanding Delawarean.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Mr. Ellison upon his nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. Mr. Brandt's selflessness serves as an example to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE HARVEY**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Maggie Harvey who has committed herself strengthening her community and has had an accomplished thirty-year career in finance.

Maggie was born in Georgetown, Guyana. The second of two girls and two boys, she was born to Uric and Gwendoline Harris-Haynes. She was baptized in St. George Cathedral.

During her early years, she was dedicated as a soldier in the Salvation Army and worshiped at the Citadel Corp. She received her early education and professional training in Guyana and upon graduation, accepted the position of personal secretary to the Divisional Commander of the Salvation Army.

In 1970, she immigrated to the United States and married Ronald Harvey, who is also Guyanese. Maggie and Ronald have three daughters.

During her 30 years of employment with JP Morgan Chase & Co., she has worked in various departments of the bank. Presently, she is in the Legal Department, Corporate Compliance/Money Laundering and Foreign Assets Control.

In 1988, she was received into fellowship at Miracle Temple Ministries in Brooklyn (formerly Church of the First Born), where Bishop E. Stewart is the Pastor. She serves on the Bishop's Anniversary Committee and also has responsibility for the Church's weekly bulletin.

She is also a Home League Member of the Salvation Army Bedford Temple Corp. in Brooklyn. Members of the organization sew handmade blankets, lap throws, cosmetic bags for personal items and smocks, which are given to the homeless, sick and nursing home shut-ins. Maggie finds this work very rewarding, and takes a leading role in the organization as the Service Chairperson for the Home Leaguers. She looks forward to doing

greater things through Christ, which strengthens her.

Mr. Speaker, Maggie Harvey has served her community while launching a successful career in the financial industry. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONGRATULATING JAMES CONLON JR. AS HE IS NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR BY THE GREATER PITTSSTON FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to James Conlon Jr. as he receives the Man of the Year Award from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2005.

Mr. Conlon is a lifelong resident of Inkerman. He is the son of the late James and Mary McAndrew Conlon. James graduated from Jenkins Township High School in 1944 and was drafted into the Army the following September. He served overseas with the Third Army, 90th Division, fighting in campaigns in Central Europe and Rhineland, Germany.

In 1956, James took a position with the Wilkes-Barre Record and worked there until 1978, when unionized workers went on strike and formed The Citizens' Voice newspaper. He was a member of the board of directors of The Citizens' Voice and was foreman of the plate department until he retired in 1989.

James has been a member of the Jenkins Township Volunteer Fire Department since 1948 and served as Fire Chief from 1970 through 1991. He also belonged to the Luzerne County Fire Chiefs Association and the Greater Pittston Mutual Aid.

James is a member of the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Fox Hill Country Club, Knights of Columbus JFK Council #372 as Fourth Degree Knight, and a lifelong member of St. Mark's Church in Inkerman.

James and his wife, the former Jean McGarry, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year. The couple has five children: James III, Mary Jo Pacchioni, William, Robert and Maureen Fetchko. They have seven grandchildren: Kathryn, James IV, Kelly, Mary Kate, William Jr., Michael and Megan.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating James Conlon Jr. upon being named Man of the Year by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF HARLANDALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER JOSHUA J. CERNA**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedication of Harlandale Inde-

pendent School District Board Member Joseph J. Cerna, of my Congressional District for a lifetime of distinguished public service.

Mr. Cerna is a San Antonio native and a graduate of Harlandale High School. He received a Bachelor's of Science Degree at Mississippi State University. Currently he is serving his community as an educator, contributing much of his time and efforts to educational matters.

Joshua Cerna was elected to District 1 Board of Trustees in 2002, and through his years of service he has held the position of the Board's Vice President, Secretary, and currently he serves as President. His active role in the District has led him to join various committees such as the Building Committee, Finance Committee, and for the past three years he has been the Chairman of the Curriculum Committee.

Mr. Cerna was one of the architects of the Bexar County School Board Coalition, which brings together different School Board leaders to communicate ideas that will lead to a higher level of education for students, parents, and teachers. He also serves as a member of the TASB Legislative Advisory Council, and TASB School Board Advisory network.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to thank Harlandale Independent School District Board President Joshua J. Cerna for all he has done in my community.

TRIBUTE TO DAWN STALEY**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dawn Staley, a three-time Olympic and World Championship gold medalist who is also the outstanding coach of the Temple University women's basketball team. The team, the Temple Women's Owls, just last week captured the Atlantic Ten Conference NCCA tournament championship. The Owls team has won a school record 27 games which includes the last 24 which represents the longest current winning streak for any Division I basketball team, men's or women's.

As a member of the 2004 U.S. Olympic team Ms. Staley was voted by other U.S. team Olympic captains to carry the flag and lead the U.S. delegation into the coliseum, in Athens, Greece. A fixture on U.S. basketball teams since the 1989 Junior World Championship, she competed in the old American Basketball League (ABL) from 1997–1999 where she was a two-time all ABL honoree. She is also just one of three University of Virginia Cavaliers to have their number retired. She twice was named National Player of the Year, during her junior and senior seasons at UVA.

Born in North Philadelphia, as a young girl Ms. Staley played basketball with the boys as a way of staying out of trouble. She attended Dobbins High School and the University of Virginia, where she was all-American. As a sports phenomenon she strives to be the role model that she says she was in search of as a child. In 1996 she created the Dawn Staley Foundation whose mission is to create a future of hope for at-risk youth by providing opportunities to help them realize their dreams and become productive and responsible citizens. Because of her efforts to give back to

her community she was awarded the 1998 American Red Cross Spectrum Award and she also received the 1999 WNBA Entrepreneurial Spirit Award.

Dawn Staley is an outstanding athlete, coach and inspiration. She is a champion in the truest sense of the word.

RECOGNIZING TOM HARPOOL FOR
HIS ENDLESS COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Tom Harpool, from Denton, Texas, in the heart of the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his dedicated service to the community.

Tom Harpool makes helping his community a high priority in his life. He has spent so much of his time dedicated to assisting others in throughout the community. From education to banking, Tom Harpool has made a difference in our lives.

In 1954, Mr. Harpool began the first of six terms on the Denton Independent School District Board of Trustees serving as its board president from 1969 until 1973. Mr. Harpool has also been a part of the United Way of Denton County, Boy Scouts of America, 4-H Club and Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church for years. In addition, Mr. Harpool has served on the boards of a local bank and savings & loan before becoming a board member of the Upper Trinity River Authority.

In his own, Mr. Harpool has become a "Master Gardener" and enjoys sharing this hobby with the community through a gardening organization. He has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club for over 50 years and dutifully served on their board. Mr. Harpool has even dabbled in politics by being an active supporter of many candidates in both local and national races.

I am proud to represent Tom Harpool—a man who has given so much back to his community. Mr. Harpool's advice, council and support to the community, whether directly or indirectly, over the years, are certainly something for which to be thankful. I am grateful that can represent such wonderful citizens like Mr. Harpool.

TRIBUTE TO TEMPLE BETH JACOB
ON THE OCCASION OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
ITS FOUNDING

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Temple Beth Jacob as it celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding. As the oldest congregation on the San Francisco Peninsula, Temple Beth Jacob stands as a testament to the long tradition of involvement of the Jewish community in the religious and public life in the Bay Area.

Founded in 1930, Temple Beth Jacob was the first Jewish religious institution created be-

tween the cities of San Francisco and San Jose. Its membership today is burgeoning with a vibrant congregation of more than 450 families from throughout the Peninsula to worship, to learn, and to strengthen both the Jewish community and the Bay Area community as a whole.

The congregation is led by Rabbi Nathaniel Ezray, who is now in his tenth year as the head of this congregation. Over the years, he's demonstrated a sincere commitment to translating the lessons of faith into actions that will benefit the community. In a 1995 interview, he said, "What's compelling for me is the social justice of Judaism. I want our congregation to respond together to domestic violence, AIDS, black-Jewish relations. My passion is teaching, but the pulpit allows me the opportunity to teach in many different ways and to create meaning and relevance." He lives with his wife, Mimi, and their daughter, Emily, and son, Ethan, in Redwood City.

In the decades before Rabbi Ezray began at the synagogue, Rabbi H. David Teitelbaum led the congregation at Temple Beth Jacob for 38 years. Under his leadership, the congregation grew from only 100 active families to its present size of nearly four times that number. A longtime advocate for civil rights, Rabbi Teitelbaum traveled to Selma, Alabama in the 1960's to march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., believing that the history of persecution of the Jewish people creates in them a special obligation to protect the human rights of all. He continues to serve as a beacon for the community and his former congregation in his current role as Executive Director of the Board of Rabbis of Northern California.

Temple Beth Jacob has a long tradition of coordinating with other religious institutions in the Bay Area to provide vital services to the community at large. In addition to providing a school and a pre-school to the community, Temple Beth Jacob's efforts have helped to house the homeless through the Interfaith Homeless Network and feed the hungry through the Urban Ministry's "Breaking Bread" program. They are annual cosponsors of the Martin Luther King observance in Redwood City, and have hosted the event over the years. All told, Temple Beth Jacob is a model of dedicated community action.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to honor Temple Beth Jacob as it celebrates its 75th anniversary. After three quarters of a century, Temple Beth Jacob remains a source of pride for the Peninsula, and promises to be a center of our community for decades to come.

UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA
ENERGY DIALOG

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, much attention has been paid to the recent conversations President Bush and President Putin have had about democracy. Less attention has been paid to their other discussions regarding market economics, supply and demand, and U.S. energy security.

Although there are varying ideas in American political discourse about the proper role of government, in the post-September 11th

world there can be no disagreement that our government's main concern is security of American citizens. National security discussions usually focus on threats to public safety, but I would like to call attention to a less-noticed facet of American security: the importance of our energy security. One of the great strengths of our nation is our access to affordable, reliable energy. Safeguarding that energy security means ensuring that access to energy continues.

In earlier Administrations, energy policies concentrated on lowering the United States' increasing dependence on imported oil. But the oil embargo of 1973 changed America's approach to energy policy. The focus shifted to reducing dependence on other countries to meet our energy needs and to minimizing the economic impact of future oil disruptions. The measures put in place (enhanced energy efficiency, increased industrial fuel switching capabilities, decreased use of oil for power generation, and others) altered America's use of energy by decoupling energy growth from GDP growth and decreasing our average energy intensity, important factors in making the U.S. less vulnerable to oil supply disruptions. Other measures such as developing strategic stocks (building and filling the strategic petroleum reserve, or SPR), developing international institutions to respond collectively to energy disruptions, and diversifying the sources of oil imported into the United States have brought more certainty and stability to the energy market. While energy security policies have not stopped oil disruptions (nor stopped the growth of oil imports which are at 58 percent of to day's consumption) they have enhanced our ability cope with disruptions while limiting economic and market impacts.

Diversifying the sources of energy refers to both fuel and geographic diversity, as well as work to develop other types of energy supplies. Increasingly, America is looking to imports of liquefied natural gas (LNG) to fill the supply gap with diverse, reliable, long-term supplies as United States demand increases, domestic supplies decrease and imports from Canada stabilize. The Bush Administration has identified liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports as one important way to decrease our overdependence on a small number of countries.

Russia plays an important role in both gas and oil markets, as the location of the world's largest gas reserves and the world's largest producer and exporter. In the international oil market, Russia is challenging Saudi Arabia as the largest crude oil producer. The Bush Administration recognized Russia's increased importance in energy markets, and launched an energy dialogue in May 2002 to enhance United States investment opportunities in Russia and to enhance Russian opportunities for energy trade with the United States.

Results under the Energy Dialogue have been mixed. American company investment opportunities in Russia have been dampened by recent events. Despite President Putin's attempts to mollify the international investment community by indicating that Russia is open to foreign investment, the Russian investment environment has deteriorated through actions undermining the rule of law and contract sanctity such as renationalizing oil assets and limiting bidding on strategic leases in oil, gas, and mining sectors. U.S.-Russian oil trade, however, has been stymied through lack of Russian infrastructure (a deepwater port that

would make it economical to ship crude in large vessels to the U.S.) and pipeline decisions directing future crude oil shipments to the Far East. The more rational, economic choice of a pipeline to the Barents Sea in the north of Russia and the development of a deepwater port near Murmansk has been delayed despite backing by both Russian and American firms.

But there is positive news coming from the Russian gas market, which is dominated by Gazprom, of which the government owns 38 percent. Gazprom exports one third of its production to Europe via pipeline supplying about 25 percent of Europe's gas needs. Over the last two or three decades of service, there has been only one day of interruption in gas service due to a payment problem in Belarus. Gazprom now is seeking to expand and diversify its markets, through both expansion of its pipelines and entry into the LNG trade. Gazprom spoke at the U.S. LNG Summit in December 2003, and the U.S. held a workshop at Gazprom's headquarters in June 2004, again urging Gazprom to focus on the U.S. market. Gazprom President Alexsey Miller signed agreements last year with three U.S. multinationals to explore developing Russian gas and LNG facilities, and marketing the LNG to the U.S. In fact, Gazprom expects to enter the U.S. LNG market indirectly by 2006, and directly by 2010. After the summit meeting, the joint communiqué from President Bush and President Putin referred to this issue, saying, "We are interested in increasing U.S. commercial investment in Russia, so as to create additional capacity for liquefied natural gas (LNG) in Russia, and also with the aim of increasing LNG exports to U.S. markets. We would welcome increased Russian oil exports to the world market and an increased presence of imports from Russia in the United States." That would be welcome news to the U.S. market.

The U.S. must remain engaged in the U.S.-Russia Energy Dialogue, despite recent adversities. We should not shrink from discussing these setbacks openly, frankly and seriously. But we need to support the May 2002 agreement to increase energy trade between the U.S. and Russia in both oil and gas, since it would enhance U.S. energy security through diversity of supply, while helping to stabilize Russia's economy and tie its interests to American success. Both countries will benefit from a long-term, stable trade in both oil and gas.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF LAREDO POLICE CHIEF
AGUSTIN DOVALINA III

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important achievements of Laredo Police Chief Agustín Dovalina III in Laredo, TX in my Congressional District.

Agustín Dovalina III was named interim police chief for the City of Laredo Police Department in 1996, and was subsequently named as the LPD chief in 1997. He began his law enforcement career with the Laredo Police Department in 1978 as a patrolman and rose

through the ranks of Laredo's finest. He has served prior posts as a Patrol Officer, Detective, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain.

Under this administration, the police department has evolved into a thriving, highly successful, and professional organization with unprecedented personnel and equipment growth. He currently oversees a multi-million dollar departmental budget and over 500 employees, including over 400 full-time police officers. Recognized nationally, Chief Dovalina is a firm believer and staunch advocate of community-based policing philosophies as evidenced by the continued commitment of the Laredo Police Department to continually enhance its delivery of Community-Oriented Policing Services in our city. Chief Agustín was one of the featured speakers at the 2002 National Community Policing Conference, where the Laredo Police Department was honored for the success of its community-based policing efforts.

Police Chief Dovalina has both a Bachelor and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and is a graduate of the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government's State & Local Executives Program. He is also a graduate of the 178th session of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy. He holds a Master Peace Officer Certification and Police Instructor Certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards & Education and, is an active member of the Texas Chapter of FBI NA Associates. He also serves as Regional Representative to the National Criminal Justice Association and is an adjunct professor of Criminal Justice.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the dedication of Laredo Police Chief Agustín Dovalina III.

IN HONOR OF VIRGINIA LANIER
BIASOTTO

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Virginia Lanier Biasotto upon her nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Ms. Biasotto is the founder of Reading ASSIST® Institute. This institute is a nonprofit organization that trains volunteer tutors to implement a one-on-one help method using scientific research-based instruction for struggling readers. This program is provided at no cost to families or schools.

Beginning in 1980, Ms. Biasotto developed a reading curriculum based on the Orton-Gillingham model, and trained friends at her kitchen table. One sound at a time, one child at a time, the groups persistence offered the education community a way to deal with the challenge of reading difference.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Ms. Biasotto upon her nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. Ms. Biasotto's determination and drive to educate and empower others serves as an example to us all. She is truly worthy of this honor.

A TRIBUTE TO QUEENIE MARY
CORLEY WOOTEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Queenie Mary Corley Wooten in recognition of her public service and numerous contributions to her community.

Queenie has made a difference in many people's lives. She was born into a family of ten in Salley, South Carolina to the late James and Estella Hunt Corey. She is the wife of the late James Wooten and the companion of Dr. Raymond B. Croskey for the past 21 years.

She has encountered many challenges during her life and has embraced them all with courage and dignity, which exemplifies the type of person she is. Queenie graduated from Medgar Evers College in 1974 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in education. She took additional courses, which enhanced her long and remarkable career in education. Presently, she is working in Region #5 as a Coordinator of External Community Programs. In addition to networking with East New York and Brownsville city agencies, she serves on the cabinets of Planning Board #5 and #16.

Queenie is developing innovative and creative external programs to improve educational and developmental outcomes for students. She coordinates activities with the external community, also assists the director with setting priorities and selecting high quality collaborative programs. She mobilizes resources for regional and school priorities, collaborates with schools in Region #5 to create inter-agency regional advisory councils, and volunteers on Planning Board #5, working with the committee on education. Additionally, she works diligently with students to help them get credit for community service.

Queenie is one of the founders of the American College of Counselors, for the New York Branch, and was recently honored by the Department of Education for her service of 41 years. In fact, she has received numerous honors and awards for her work including: an award from Medgar Evers College as one of its first graduates; the Sojourner Truth Award from the Brooklyn Club of the Negro Business & Professional Women's Club; an honoree of the Women's League of Science and Medicine Inc; and the education award from Van Siclen Block Association. Organizations such as National Sickle Cell Research and the Latin Souls Little League Baseball have honored her as well. Queenie serves on the Board of Directors for Medgar Evers Alumni Association, as the Youth Advisor for the Brooklyn Youth Club, and the chair of North East Committee of Elections.

She notes that all of her accomplishments would not have been possible without the spiritual leadership of Rev. Jacob Underwood. Queenie has been a faithful member of Grace Baptist for the past 35 years.

Mr. Speaker, Queenie Mary Corley Wooten has been dedicated to serving her community through her work on numerous community boards and volunteer efforts. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONGRATULATING JOSEPH J. CARMODY AS HE IS AWARDED THE W. FRANCIS SWINGLE AWARD BY THE GREATER PITTSSTON FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Judge Joseph J. Carmody as he is awarded the W. Francis Swingle Award by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick at their annual banquet on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2005.

W. Francis Swingle, a lifelong Pittstonian, was a professor of English at King's College and tirelessly aided the community and encouraged college students to give back to society. To that end, Judge Carmody has proven himself a worthy recipient of this award.

Judge Carmody is a lifelong resident of Greater Pittston and a former Past President of the Friendly Sons. He was elected to serve as the West Side District Justice in 2004.

Judge Carmody has been an attorney in the area for more than 27 years. In his career, he has served as First Assistant District Attorney of Luzerne County and Solicitor to the Wyoming Area School District and several municipalities. He is a member of St. Mary of Assumption Church and a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus. He has served on numerous boards, including St. Michael's School for Boys and the Fox Hill Country Club.

Judge Carmody is the son of Jule Carmody of West Pittston and the late Joseph Carmody. He is married to the former Catherine Sowa, and the couple has five children: Joseph, Christopher, Matthew, Sara and Michael.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Judge Joseph J. Carmody as he receives the W. Francis Swingle Award from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick.

SALUTING THE GRAND OPENING OF THE TRI-STATE Warbird MUSEUM IN CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the grand opening on May 20, 2005 of the extraordinary new Tri-State Warbird Museum in Clermont County, Ohio.

The museum, based at the Clermont County Airport, will showcase the history of fighter planes in World War II and Vietnam. Housed in a new 20,000 square foot state of the art facility, the museum features an exhibit area for historic artifacts; a library of reference books; a classroom; a professional restoration shop for the preservation and restoration of original historic aircraft; and a storage area for specialized tools and parts.

Historic aircraft are invaluable to understanding our nation's history, and examples of

these planes are few in number and in danger of being lost forever. With the museum's painstaking preservation efforts, they will come to life for everyone to learn from and enjoy. Thanks to this museum, the importance of these airplanes to our enduring freedom and the sacrifice of those involved—from engineers to mechanics to the pilots—will never be lost.

The Tri-State Warbird Museum's unique building has resulted from the hard work and expertise of man volunteers and supporters. In 2003, a group of volunteers, led by business leader David O' Maley, formed to preserve the memory of those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. Museum President Paul Redlich, a pilot and professional technician with more than twenty years of historic aviation expertise, closed his business and moved his family to Cincinnati to run the museum. The facility also boasts two professional technicians committed to Warbird painstaking restoration and maintenance: Greg Muir and Nathan Dalrymple.

The museum also boasts an advisory board composed of a broad group of area citizens who have unique talents and experience in aviation and history. Members of the advisory board include: Neil Armstrong; Howard Becker; Jim Bushman; Jack Brown; Joe Campanella; Mark Clark; Richard Cross; Tad Lawrence; Dr. Francis LeRoy; Phil Myers; Buck Niehoff; David O'Maley; Jim Orr; Scott Robertson; Hal Shevers; Dudley Taft; and Oliver Waddell. Of particular note is the extraordinary commitment of the advisory board members and the museum's capital campaign committee, which resulted in the museum's entire cost being funded by private donations.

Mr. Speaker, all of us in Southern Ohio congratulate the many professionals and volunteers who have helped to make this wonderful new museum a reality.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STAFF SERGEANT MICHAEL PAUL BARRERA

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding contributions of SSG Michael Paul Barrera, and to acknowledge the renaming of Veterans Elementary School as SSG Michael P. Barrera Veterans Elementary.

After enlisting in the Army in December of 1995 at the age of 18, he completed his basic training in Fort Knox, KY. Michael was always passionate about his job and strove to be the best.

His commanding officers recognized him with such commendations and achievement awards as a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

On April 9 of 2003 Michael was sent to Iraq with the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood, TX, in support of "Operation Iraqi Freedom." During a routine trip for food as Michael and his crew were returning to camp, an improvised explosive device that had been buried in the sand was set off by remote control as the tank rolled over it. As a result of his injuries, Michael passed away on October 28, 2003, at the age of 26.

Michael joined a long list of family members in service. In light of his outstanding service,

he was appointed Sergeant by the young age of 20. He sought to make a career in the Army, aspiring to become a ROTC instructor.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to have this opportunity to recognize the bravery and dedication of SSG Michael Paul Barrera.

ANTHONY BARSAMIAN SPEAKS ELOQUENTLY ABOUT THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last month, Anthony Barsamian, Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Armenian Assembly of America, made an eloquent speech at the "International Refugee, Relief and Recognition Tribute" hosted by the Armenian-American community in California. Mr. Barsamian eloquently stressed the importance to all of us of remembering that "the history of genocide must remain inviolable and periodically affirmed regardless of political discomfort or cost so that we may learn its lessons."

Mr. Speaker, I think it is a grave error that this Congress has not been allowed to vote on a resolution affirming this important point with regard to the terrible history of the genocide perpetrated against the Armenians. We cannot allow current foreign policy considerations to override our obligation in this critical area. Anthony Barsamian cogently and forcefully reminds us why such an omission is unacceptable, and I ask that his moving, thoughtful remarks be printed here.

ASSEMBLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIRMAN ANTHONY BARSAMIAN'S REMARKS AT THE "INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE, RELIEF AND RECOGNITION TRIBUTE"—FEBRUARY 24, 2005

Your Eminence, Reverend clergy, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This remembrance and recognition highlights two issues of critical importance to the horrific recurrence of Genocide and the apparent impotence of the world to stop this crime against us all.

First, the history of genocide must remain inviolable and periodically affirmed regardless of political discomfort or cost so that we may learn its lessons.

Second, the actions of 3rd parties are vital to raising awareness about the crime as soon as it becomes known, to taking resolute steps to end the genocidal process, to bring to account the perpetrators, to provide comfort to the survivors, and to forever remember all instances of genocide.

This is why the Armenian Assembly joined with the AGBU and the Diocese to remember those nations and organizations that took action while the Armenian Genocide was being carried out and subsequently. Armenians remain deeply indebted to all who refused the easy path of indifference and inaction. You saved lives, you affirmed the truth, and you bore witness so that the world would be better equipped to act on the meaning of "Never Again".

As is evident today, the Republic of Turkey refuses to accept the judgment of history that the Ottoman Turkish government committed genocide against its Armenian minority. Instead, Turkey attempts to impose its revisionism on a civilized world that knows better, but occasionally succumbs to Turkish demands and intimidation by refraining from affirming the truth. Nations

who had initially committed to participate in this recognition commemoration withdrew in the face of such Turkish pressure. This solves nothing. The dead are not honored for their sacrifice. The actions of the righteous are not recalled. And ironically, the descendants of the victimizers are not allowed to come to terms with the truth.

Nevertheless, we pause today as we begin this 90th commemorative year to give thanks to all nations and organizations that came to our aid—but particularly to those that attended today despite the Turkish government's campaign to stop you.

For Turkey's state sponsored denial effort, having this event is a defeat. This is a good day for the truth. As Armenian-Americans, we recall with special appreciation the leading role of the United States in attempting to prevent the Armenian Genocide and in aiding those that survived. As Armenian-Americans, we look to the United States to continue this proud chapter of American history by reaffirming the facts of this most calamitous chapter of Armenian history. There is an inevitability to universal affirmation of the Armenian Genocide, and America has not and will not be an exception.

A case in point is the recently concluded visit of U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans with major Armenian-American communities across the country. In his public commentaries, Ambassador Evans repeatedly employed the words "Armenian Genocide" to properly characterize the attempted annihilation of our people by Ottoman Turkey.

This is in keeping with President Reagan's proclamation of April 22, 1981 where he stated in part, "like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it—and like too many other persecutions of too many other people—the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten". . .

And also with the thrust of President Bush's 2001 to 2004 April 24 messages that set forth the textbook definition of genocide without using the word. Ambassador Evans completed the thought.

The Ambassador's characterization also is in keeping with the public declarations of over 120 renowned Holocaust and Genocide scholars regarding "the incontestable fact of the Armenian Genocide".

Further, Ambassador Evans' characterization conforms to the summary conclusion of the International Center for Transitional Justice on the use of the term Armenian Genocide. ICTJ stated that "the Events, viewed collectively, can thus be said to include all of the elements of the crime of genocide as defined in the Convention, and legal scholars as well as historians, politicians, journalists and other people would be justified in continuing to so describe them."

The Armenian-American community will not rest until the United States formally and irrevocably reaffirms the Armenian Genocide. By so doing, we forever advance the special role of the United States in genocide prevention.

Today, we are here to honor 17 nations who have joined the movement towards universal affirmation of the Armenian Genocide. You have appropriately remembered this instance of man's inhumanity to man. You have stepped forward to combat denial and revisionism. We will never forget your solidarity.

As Voltaire said, "to the living we owe respect, but to the dead we owe only the truth".

REGARDING S. 384, TO EXTEND THE NAZI WAR CRIMES AND JAPANESE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP FOR 2 YEARS

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 14, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 384, a bill extending the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group for two years. This crucial legislation amends the Japanese Imperial Government Disclosure Act of 2000 to extend from four to six years the existence of the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group. H.R. 842 extends by two years this worthy working group, which was originally created by Congress through Public Law 105-246 in 1998. The group is made up of government agency representatives who are directed to oversee the declassification of U.S. Government records that contain information about Nazi war crimes.

Such information includes trafficking of assets seized by the Nazis and post-war communications between U.S. Government and former Nazi officials, unless declassification would unduly violate personal privacy or harm national security or foreign policy interests. The law also allowed for expedited processing of Freedom of Information, requests made by survivors of the Holocaust.

On December 6, 2000, as part of the Intelligence Authorization Act for 2001, Congress changed the group's name to the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group. This action expanded the mission of the group to include the declassification of U.S. Government records related to World War II-era war crimes committed by the Japanese Imperial government.

Mr. Speaker, the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group is a valuable effort that informs the American people of the actions of their government while balancing the protection of legitimate national secrets.

I support this noble effort so that we can continue to confront this dark chapter in American History.

The vicious and barbaric war crimes committed by the Nazis, and the atrocities committed by the Japanese Imperial Government during World War II, were some of the worse criminal acts of the 20th century. Both of these historical crimes against humanity must be studied and chronicled in their entirety. The acts of barbarism and genocide committed by the German Nazi and Japanese Imperial governments should never be forgotten. Therefore, it is up to the elected representatives of the American people to ensure that the United States Government complies completely with the Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Government Records Interagency Working Group and makes accessible all information that is allowable by law.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "END GRIDLOCK ACT"

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON and TOM DAVIS in introducing the "End Gridlock Act." This bill is a refinement of a proposal, the "Washington Regional Transportation Act" (H.R. 2882) that I introduced last session.

Unfortunately, this region is not yet prepared to embrace last year's proposal and establish a regional transportation authority. Last year's bill called for the creation of a regional transportation authority, one that could receive a dedicated revenue source, issue bonds and be in an ideal position to coordinate land use and transportation funding decisions. I regret that the time is not ripe for this a proposal.

The defeat of the Northern Virginia transportation referendum in 2002, in my view, moved us away from real progress in solving our transportation problems. Unfortunately, poor management of the state's transportation programs and false promises by past state officials left the public distrustful that any meaningful solutions were possible.

I'd trade the price of a daily cup of coffee for real investments in transit and road improvements, something that would shave 10 minutes off my commute. I think a majority of the public share this view, but they have been skeptical and fear that the money raised would not be spent wisely or spent on projects that have their own built-in opposition and controversy.

The legislation I am introducing today does not to create a regional authority, it won't build new roadways. Instead, it focuses on making improvements to what already exists. It is a small but important first step that I hope builds the foundation for greater regional coordination and cooperation and builds public confidence for longer term solutions.

Believe me, we need better coordination and cooperation. We need to rebuild confidence. The legislation I am introducing today borrows from some of the best, simplest and most cost-effective proposals. Some of the ideas were drawn from local transportation and planning experts. They are small ticket items, but if they prove successful, maybe the consensus will be there to support a more ambitious agenda. The Washington Post highlighted some of these potential projects in a series featured last year.

These investments included building sidewalks and pedestrian and bike paths to connect communities to schools, transit centers, Metrorail stations and commercial centers. This legislation will provide grants to help localities synchronize traffic lights signals on major transportation corridors which will reduce travel time and improve capacity. The bill provides money to encourage more businesses to offer greater telework and telecommuting options. It will provide grants to give transit riders real-time information on bus and rail schedules so they can time their departures from home and work to arrive at a transit stop just when the bus pulls up. It will also fund advance technologies to allow buses to slip through interchanges before the traffic

lights change and on and offload passengers without blocking traffic.

These simple measures can be done for a few million dollars as opposed to the tens or hundreds of millions other projects require but for lack the funds are not being built and would take years to complete. It is said that if you can encourage just 3 percent to today's drivers to carpool or take the bus, you can reduce congestion by 10 percent.

In addition to these type of investments, the bill also allows the regional governments to fund a transportation incident management operations center. The center would be modeled after the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut program, known as TRANSCOM, where a full-time staff is focused on helping the public get around congestion problems when they occur. How many people remember the "Tractor Man" episode? There were hundreds of law enforcement and emergency response people on the scene, but it was hours before anyone there began to try to figure out how to move traffic around when all the adjacent streets were closed.

Similarly, how many times do commuters find road or utility construction closing traffic lanes in a haphazard manner. Jurisdictions should be working together to coordinate their construction schedule to minimize the time a lane along a transportation corridor remains closed. A New York-New Jersey TRANSCOM-type program for the National Capital Region would be on point for coordinating critical transportation information 24/7.

These are simple solutions, but ones that are not in the interest of any one jurisdiction to fund. But, if a federal grant was offered as an incentive, the local governments might all be willing to contribute, or better yet, compete to pull down the extra federal money. Mr. Chairman, this bill is the first step to end this region's gridlock. It gets us started and could bring measurable quality of life improvements to this region's citizens at a relatively small cost.

I will be working with my colleagues from this region to try to incorporate this proposal into this year's surface transportation reauthorization bill.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BEXAR COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY SUSAN REED

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susan Reed for her distinguished career in law, and her many contributions to the justice system in the state of Texas.

Susan Reed was raised in San Antonio, Texas, and graduated from Alamo Heights High School. She attended the University of Texas at Austin, where she received an undergraduate degree in Economics, and completed her JD at the University of Texas Law School in 1974.

Ms. Reed began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney for Bexar County in 1974. She served in that position for eight years, and was chief prosecutor in the 144th and 187th District Courts.

Following a successful career in civil practice, Ms. Reed served as Judge of the 144th

District Court for 12 years. She was Administrative Judge for the District Courts of Bexar County in 1996 and 1997, and spearheaded the development of the gang unit within the Adult Probation Department, which she counts as one of her proudest accomplishments. Her work on this project resulted in her being awarded the Judge of the Year Award by the Texas Gang Investigators Association.

Since 1998, Susan Reed has served the people of Bexar County as District Attorney. She is a member of the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women, and a member of the Regional Anti-Terrorism Task Force. She has been a tireless advocate for victims of crime, and a powerful force for making our communities and our State safer.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Bexar County have benefited greatly from Susan Reed, and I am proud to have the opportunity to thank her today.

IN MEMORY OF DR. JAMES O. MCBRIDE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give tribute to Dr. James O. McBride, from Fort Worth in the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for his lifelong contributions to his community and to medicine. Dr. McBride started the first open-heart surgery program in Fort Worth. Dr. Brooks died on March 11th at the age of 86.

I would like to recognize and celebrate Dr. McBride's life today. Dr. McBride was a third generation Fort Worth resident. Dr. McBride graduated from Central High School before going on to college at Texas Christian University. He then went to the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and received his PhD in 1942. When Dr. McBride finished his internship in Fort Worth, he went on active duty with the Navy as a surgeon in the Pacific Theater. There, he earned a Navy Unit Citation and nine battle stars.

Upon completion of his active duty in 1946, Dr. McBride completed medical residencies at Bellevue Hospital and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York. In 1951, Dr. McBride moved back to Fort Worth where he set up a thoracic surgery practice. He was known for visiting with patients' families after performing an operation, which was virtually unheard of then. While at Saint Joseph Hospital, Dr. McBride began the first open-heart surgery program in Fort Worth. He was later promoted to chief of surgery at Saint Joseph Hospital. Dr. McBride was also the chief of thoracic surgery at John Peter Smith Hospital.

Dr. McBride was very active in several philanthropic organizations and served on the board or as a chairman for the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Lung Association, YMCA's Camp Carter, Joseph White Foundation, Carter Blood Center, and Country Day School and Union Bank. Dr. McBride's community realized his great services in 1989 when he was presented with the Gold-Headed Cane Award by Tarrant County Medical Society. Only a doctor who has been a society member for 20 or more years can receive the award.

I respected him as a fellow doctor and was honored to represent him here in Congress. I extend my sympathies to his family and friends. Dr. McBride was described by one of his sons as a "source of guidance for whoever sought his counsel." Such a man can never be replaced and will be dearly missed.

RECOGNIZING DR. R. DUNCAN LUCE ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECEIVING THE 2003 NATIONAL MEDAL OF SCIENCE

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize Dr. R. Duncan Luce of the University of California-Irvine for his outstanding contributions to the scientific community. Professor Luce is one of eight U.S. scientists and engineers—and one of four Californians—to receive the 2003 National Medal of Science, the Nation's highest scientific honor.

Professor Luce is no stranger to high honors. Over his 50-year career, Professor Luce has been awarded the Society of Experimental Psychologists' Norman Anderson Award, the Decision Analysis Society's Frank P. Ramsey Medal, and the American Psychological Foundation's Gold Medal for Life Achievement in the Science of Psychology. Among his many influential publications are the seminal texts *Games and Decisions* (1957) and *Individual Choice Behavior* (1959), both of which remain in widespread academic use. His pioneering work in game and choice theory has resulted in dramatic advances in the fields of economics and psychology, and is applied to a variety of disciplines, including the analysis and prediction of stock market fluctuations.

Professor Luce has made vital contributions to Orange County in the course of his 20 years of service at the University of California-Irvine. He first came to UCI in 1972 before leaving in 1975 to serve in a variety of positions at the forefront of mathematical research at some of the Nation's finest universities, including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, Harvard University, and the University of Pennsylvania. In 1988, he returned to Irvine, where he created UCI's Institute for Mathematical Behavioral Sciences, thereby reinforcing the campus's reputation as a leader in that field. He has served on search committees for three UCI chancellors.

Mr. Speaker, I know that all of our colleagues join me in paying tribute to Dr. R. Duncan Luce. In behalf of all of us in the United States Congress, I am pleased to recognize Professor Luce's remarkable achievements, and to thank him and his family for all that they have given to the improvement of learning and the betterment of our society.

HONORING COLONEL BILL GUINN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Bill Guinn, Commander of

Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Colonel Guinn, a native of San Bernardino, California, will have served as Commander of Letterkenny for an unprecedented 3 years on July 18, 2005.

While most Commanders assume posts for only 2 years, Letterkenny has been fortunate to have Colonel Guinn as Commander for 3. On July 29th, 2005, Colonel Guinn will complete his command duty and pursue another endeavor to add to an already impressive career of service to his country. He has commanded the 123rd Main Support Battalion, 1st Armored Division in Bosnia, Croatia, and Germany. Highlights of his honors include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, the NATO Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Devoted to Letterkenny's mission of supporting the Global War on Terror, Colonel Guinn ensures the best equipment is available to field units throughout the world but especially in Afghanistan and Iraq. Colonel Guinn's concern and care for his soldiers enhances the effectiveness of their missions and has established a new level of commitment among the troops.

However, what makes Colonel Guinn remarkable is not only his outstanding military credentials and devotion to country, but also to his immediate community. He has taken personal interest in the economic growth of Chambersburg and the surrounding area of Franklin County Pennsylvania. As Letterkenny transitions into the 21st century it has ceded some of its unused land to Franklin County to be used for private enterprise. Colonel Guinn has been there every step of the way with a spirit of cooperation and mutual support for the developing Cumberland Valley Business Park.

Colonel Guinn takes his leadership beyond the gates of Letterkenny by personally participating in community events and pro-actively informing and educating the surrounding community as to the efforts of the Army Depot. A good neighbor in the truest sense of the word, Colonel Guinn ensures the community is welcomed onto the installation by way of annual picnics, Armed Forces Day activities, and provides recreational land for the Cub Scout Program.

I know Chambersburg and all of Franklin County join me in grateful thanks for the spirit of service, patriotism, and dedication Colonel Guinn, his wife Karen, and their two daughters have inspired and provided to so many. My best wishes to him on the completion of his tremendous service at Letterkenny Army Depot.

HONORING KEITH WOOD MEURLIN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to draw the attention of the House to the retirement of Keith Wood Meurlin from the position of vice president and airport manager of Washington Dulles International Airport. He will leave his position at the end of March.

Keith has helped Washington Dulles grow from an airport that was used by few to an airport that is well respected world-wide. I re-

member attending an event on the runway of Dulles Airport when I was first elected to Congress. Last year alone 22.9 million passengers traveled through Dulles Airport.

As airport manager, Mr. Meurlin directed operations, maintenance, and commercial activities at Dulles, which employs nearly 17,000 people and is one of the busiest in the country in terms of aircraft operations. During Keith's tenure as airport manager, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) has invested nearly \$1.5 billion in expanding the airport facilities in the late 1990's and is currently undertaking an additional \$3 billion construction program to keep pace with current and future growth.

Mr. Meurlin came to the Washington airports in 1977 following his active duty in the United States Air Force. He began his service as an airport operations officer and successively advanced through the organization in engineering and maintenance and operations management positions before becoming the airport manager in 1989.

Mr. Meurlin helped guide Dulles after the September 11 terrorist attacks and has helped lead the way as the airport and the aviation industry have grown since that time. Last year at Dulles saw a passenger increase of almost 35 percent compared to 2003.

Keith has been extensively involved in the community. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Greater Reston and the Loudoun Chambers of Commerce; Board of Directors of the Loudoun County Convention and Visitors Association; member of Leadership Fairfax; the Board of the United Way for both Loudoun County and the National Capital Area; and is the past chairman of the Heart Association of Northern Virginia.

He was also the recipient of the 2000 Citizen of the Year award from the Loudoun Rotary and the 2002 Tower of Dulles Award from the Committee for Dulles.

In addition to his service with MWAA, Mr. Meurlin has continued his military service in the Air Force Reserve where he has attained the rank of major general, the highest rank a traditional reservist can achieve.

I wish Keith and his family the best as he retires from MWAA and again thank him for his efforts to make Dulles Airport the thriving aviation center it is today.

INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC CONVERSION ACT OF 2005

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I am again introducing the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act, NDECA, as I have done since 1994. I have introduced this bill every year based on a ballot initiative passed by D.C. residents in 1993. NDECA will require the United States to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons when all other nations possessing nuclear weapons enact laws to do the same. NDECA further provides that when U.S. nuclear weapons are dismantled, the resources used to support nuclear weapon programs would be diverted to our growing human and infrastructure needs, such as

housing, health care, Social Security and the environment.

This year's introduction of this bill has special meaning because this is the sixtieth anniversary of the U.S. bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Only the United States has used an atom bomb, but today the number of nations with this capability has grown dangerously and continues without effective intervention by the Bush administration.

In addition to the economic cost of nuclear weapons, the weapons have increased as a destabilizing force in world affairs. North Korea, at least in part in response to stepped up aggressive talk and U.S. policies, has responded in a dangerously paranoid fashion by announcing that it is expanding its nuclear capabilities and even that it now has a nuclear weapon, although these claims have not been entirely verified. Iran also appears to be pursuing greater nuclear capability and is resisting inspections. India and Pakistan have moved back from the precipice of several years ago but each remains poised with nuclear weapons.

This country must lead the world community in redoubling efforts to push back the new surge of nuclear proliferation. Our country would be better able to dissuade other nations who aspire to become or remain nuclear powers if we ourselves took greater initiative in dismantling our own nuclear weapons program. We moved in the right direction when the Senate ratified the Moscow Treaty in 2003, which provides that by 2012 both the U.S. and Russia will reduce their long-range warheads two thirds from approximately 6,000 warheads each to 2,200. However, the administration has failed to build on this effort. According to a recent study, "Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action" May 2004; prepared by the Belfer Center, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government: "Total nuclear-threat reduction spending remains less than one quarter of one percent of the U.S. military budget. Indeed, on average, the Bush administration requests for nuclear-threat reduction spending over FY 2002-2005 have been less, in real terms, than the last Clinton administration request, made long before the 9/11 attacks ever occurred."

However, the problem today is far more complicated than nuclear disarmament by nation states. The greatest threat today is from inadequately defended and guarded sites in many countries where there is enough material to make nuclear weapons and many opportunities for terrorists to secure nuclear materials. Astonishingly, because of the absence of Presidential leadership, less nuclear material was seized in the 2 years following the 9/11 attacks than in the 2 years immediately preceding the attacks ("Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action", May 2004).

I serve on the Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack Subcommittee of the Homeland Security Committee. I know that threats from nuclear proliferation and available nuclear material are more dangerous in the post 9/11 era than at any time since I first introduced this bill in 1994. The way to begin is closing down nuclear capability here and around the world.

With 45 million people still without health insurance, Social Security without the benefits for the huge baby boomer generation, an economy burdened with a dangerous deficit, and millions of Americans pushed back into poverty during the last 4 years, the time has

come to begin the transfer of nuclear weapons funds to urgent domestic needs.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF WILSON COUNTY JUDGE
MARVIN QUINNEY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wilson County Judge Marvin Quinney for a lifetime of dedicated public service.

A native Texan, Marvin Quinney grew up in Wilson County. In 1968 he worked with the Texas Department of Safety. Mr. Quinney served his community as a DPS state trooper in Wilson County for 27 years. He also served his country as a Military Police Officer in Vietnam and in the United States.

Providing a valuable service to our courts, Marvin Quinney has spent years as a Court Security Officer at the John Wood Federal Courthouse in San Antonio. He also belongs to numerous trooper organizations and participates in multiple safety projects for the citizens residing in his county.

Marvin Quinney currently serves as the County Judge of Wilson County, and currently serves as the presiding officer of the Wilson County Commissioners Court. He has been instrumental in the growth and infrastructure development of Wilson County, and serves the office with honor and distinction.

Mr. Speaker, Wilson County Judge Marvin Quinney is a credit to his community and a tremendous resource to his country. His concern for the people and his willingness to work hard has enabled him to accomplish great things and help serve the people of his community.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO ESTAB-
LISH "NATIONAL TARTAN DAY"
RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENTS
AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF SCOT-
TISH-AMERICANS

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, on behalf of nearly six thousand Scottish-Americans who live in my district, I rise today as a proud cosponsor and in strong support of H. Res. 41. This bipartisan resolution supports the establishment of a 'National Tartan Day' to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish-Americans throughout our nation's history.

In America's early history, many colonists pursued higher education at universities founded by Scottish settlers. Many of the non-Anglican students who were prohibited from enrolling at other institutions attended these universities where the Scottish-American ideals of universal education, religious freedom and law flourished and became significant influences on the development of our Nation.

In fact, our nation's Declaration of Independence was modeled largely on Scotland's Declaration of Independence, the Declaration of Arbroath, which was signed four and a half centuries earlier. An often overlooked fact is that nearly half the signers of our Declaration of Independence were of Scottish descent.

Throughout our Nation's history Scottish-Americans contributed to diverse areas of American life such as science, technology, medicine, government, politics, economics, architecture, literature, media, and visual and performing arts. President Woodrow Wilson and Andrew Carnegie are two examples of notable Scottish-Americans who excelled in these fields.

These contributions and achievements are celebrated by more than 200 cultural organizations throughout the United States. One of these organizations, the Illinois Saint Andrew Society serves the city and suburbs of Chicago, Illinois by honoring the culture and traditions of Scotland and Scottish-Americans. These organizations provide a valuable service by educating all Americans about the time-honored values and ideals of the Scottish culture.

Madam Speaker, I thank the Scottish cultural organizations for documenting and promoting these contributions, and I am proud to be a cosponsor and support this important resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF HEATHER
RAY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding young woman in my district, Heather Ray. Heather is a sophomore at Northglenn High School. She was recently honored with the Human Rights Campaign 1st Annual Colorado Youth Award. Heather was selected for her exceptional commitment to diversity.

Specifically, she was instrumental in forming a diversity group at Northglenn High School called "Students Teaching Not Discrimination" or STAND. This organization is designed to give students a safe environment to talk about issues involving sexual orientation, discrimination and the peer pressure that can often lead young people to contemplate dropping out of school, or even worse, suicide.

Heather and her fellow students in STAND have spoken out against the violence and hatred that so many young people are subjected to, and no matter what your position or religious views may be on controversial issues like gay marriage or sexual orientation, I believe we can all applaud this young woman for having the courage of her convictions, and for pursuing a constructive vehicle to explore these issues.

Heather's teacher and mentor, Victoria Bull, describes Heather as an exceptional young person who not only cares passionately about equal right and human dignity but is also tenacious in her desire to affect change. Heather understands the importance of language and insists that those around her take care to make sure their words reflect the values of respect due all human beings. She plans to be-

come a lawyer or a teacher so that she can continue to educate about and defend human rights.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Heather for her commitment to diversity. I join her family and friends in acknowledging her courage and idealism.

SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION
OF THE YEAR OF THE LANGUAGES

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 8, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Education and Workforce and the International Relations committees, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 122, Mr. HOLT's resolution to support and encourage the study of languages in the United States.

The promotion and expansion of language studies will ensure our nation's ability to compete in a global marketplace of the 21st Century. The United States needs a skilled workforce in government, national security, the scientific community and business who possess the language and cross-cultural skills to successfully engage our global community.

While colleges and universities across the U.S. provide for the study of languages and employ teachers and scholars in specialized languages, they have not had the resources or the incentives to recruit, retain, and graduate students in specialized languages at a rate equal to the demand. We need more students to study languages for the strength of our economy and for the security of U.S. interests here at home and abroad.

The federal government provides incentives for the study of math, science, and engineering because we have recognized the value of encouraging strong graduation rates in those areas. We should have the same recognition for the value that foreign language proficiency adds to other professional degrees.

At the University of Minnesota, between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004, while fourteen bachelor's degrees in East Asian languages were conferred, zero Masters and PhDs in East Asian languages were conferred. During the same time, zero degrees in Arabic languages were conferred at any level. And, zero degrees were conferred in South Asian languages at either the bachelor's or advanced degree levels.

In contrast, Chinese students as well as men and women from countries in the Middle East, India, and across the globe come, to the United States to study math, engineering, biology, and medicine—in English—their second or even third language. How many Americans have the ability or incentive to live in China and obtain an advanced understanding of the Chinese language? In Japan? In South Korea? The learning gap between the U.S. and countries in Europe and Asia is widening in math and science. Language acquisition is an essential component of our nation retaining our competitive edge.

I commend Mr. HOLT for his leadership on this important issue and, again, offer my strong support.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ANDREA LEEDS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Andrea Leeds. Andrea's steadfast involvement in the community has truly enriched the lives of children and families in our Long Island communities.

Upon graduating from Boston University with a BA in Psychology, Andrea began her career in Human Resources at Kenyon and Eckhardt Advertising. She continued in the Wall Street offices of Chemical Bank as a Corporate Training Specialist. Finally, as Assistant Director of Human Resources at Ziff Davis Publishing, she met her favorite applicant and most notable "hire"—Michael Leeds. Following their engagement, Andrea left Ziff Davis to become Director of Human Resources at Lebharr Friedman Publishing.

While Michael was expanding CMP Media, Andrea became a full-time mom—raising three daughters. With her focus on the family, she became very involved in numerous school activities—most notably the PTA and girls' athletics.

Andrea's involvement in the community extends far beyond her own family. As a founding member and President of the Woodbury Jewish Center Sisterhood, Andrea was honored by the community as "Woman of Achievement." She is currently a Trustee of the Woodbury Jewish Center and is the Board liaison to the Senior Citizens Group.

Andrea also co-chairs the United Jewish Agencies Long Island Legislative Committee and is Executive Vice President and a member of the Board of Directors of the North Shore Child and Family Guidance Center. Throughout her service to center, which is the largest non-profit mental health center on Long Island, Andrea has led numerous initiatives including the establishment of the Trauma and Bereavement Center. Along with her husband, Michael, Andrea was recognized with the prestigious "Family Life Award" in 2002.

Together, this dynamic spouse-team runs the Andrea and Michael Leeds Family Foundation, which focuses on community health care, education and support for Israel. The Center upholds one of Andrea's core beliefs that the "key to success and understanding each other begins with education." This statement is one that Andrea maintains throughout her abundant work in our community, and I applaud her many achievements and contributions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was out on Monday, March 14, and as a result, missed three votes. Had I been present:

For Roll Call No. 66—H.Res. 135, I would have voted "yea."

For Roll Call No. 67—H. Res. 101, I would have voted "yea."

For Roll Call No. 68—H. Res. 151, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING EARL V. JONES SR.

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American and Pittsburgher, Mr. Earl V. Jones, Sr. Mr. Jones is a constituent of mine and the founder of the worldwide Peace on Earth Campaign.

The Peace on Earth Campaign is centered on community leaders and the many volunteers in the community who do their part day in and day out. Local firefighters, police and paramedics have co-sponsored Mr. Jones' project which is showcased by a flag designed by Mr. Jones himself. The flag and symbol for the world peace campaign is a dove and globe in red, black, brown, yellow, and white to acknowledge the ongoing struggle for world peace.

In a post-9/11 world where terrorism and war surround us, Mr. Jones' Peace on Earth Campaign is a symbol for all nations to strive towards. The Peace on Earth campaign has been recognized and endorsed by President George W. Bush, former President Bill Clinton and Former Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

Mr. Jones organizes numerous events to promote community involvement in the Peace on Earth Campaign. One of the many events Mr. Jones' organization promotes is a highly successful student essay program in our public schools. Each essay is designed to bring awareness of the theme of peace on Earth to the youth of the world.

With his efforts to promote the noble goal of peace on Earth, Mr. Jones truly epitomizes the American values of peace, community, and brotherhood. I commend Mr. Jones on his countless hours of volunteer work spent as the ambassador and organizer for the Peace on Earth Campaign.

RECOGNIZING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend U.S. Ambassador to Armenia John Evans for properly labeling the atrocities committed by the Ottoman Empire against the Armenians as genocide and to urge the President to follow his example and accurately characterize this crime against humanity in his commemorative statement next month.

Ambassador Evans recently completed his first U.S. visit to major Armenian-American communities to share his initial impressions of Armenia and our programs there. During his public exchanges with Armenian-American communities throughout the United States late last month, Ambassador Evans declared that "the Armenian Genocide was the first genocide of the twentieth century."

By employing this term, the Ambassador is building on previous statements by Presidents Reagan and Bush, as well as the repeated declarations of numerous world-renowned scholars. In effect, Evans has done nothing more than succinctly name the conclusions enunciated by those before him.

In 1981, President Reagan issued a presidential proclamation that said in part: "like the genocide of the Armenians before it, and the genocide of the Cambodians which followed it—and like too many other persecutions of too many other people—the lessons of the Holocaust must never be forgotten . . ." President Bush, himself, has invoked the textbook definition of genocide in his preceding April 24th statements by using the expressions "annihilation" and "forced exile and murder" to characterize this example of man's inhumanity to man.

Furthermore, Evans' remarks correspond with the signed statement in 2000 by 126 Genocide and Holocaust scholars affirming that the World War I Armenian Genocide is an incontestable historical fact and accordingly urging the governments of Western democracies to likewise recognize it as such. The petitioners, among whom is Nobel Laureate for Peace Elie Wiesel, also asked the Western Democracies to urge the Government and Parliament of Turkey to finally come to terms with a dark chapter of Ottoman-Turkish history and to recognize the Armenian Genocide.

The Ambassador's declarations also conform to the summary conclusions of the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) when it facilitated an independent legal study on the applicability of the 1948 Genocide Convention to events that occurred during the early twentieth century. The ICTJ report stated that "the Events, viewed collectively, can thus be said to include all of the elements of the crime of genocide as defined in the Convention, and legal scholars as well as historians, politicians, journalists and other people would be justified in continuing to so describe them."

The Armenian people's ability to survive in the face of the repression carried out against them stands as a monument to their endurance and will to live. Therefore, it is critically important that the United States speak with one voice in condemning the horrors committed against the Armenians. Only by working to preserve the truth about the Armenian Genocide can we hope to spare future generations from the horrors of the past.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I join the Armenian Caucus Co-Chairs, Representatives Frank Pallone and Joe Knollenberg, in applauding the statements of Ambassador Evans and others, and in urging the President to reaffirm the U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT MANCUSO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert J. Mancuso, C.E.C., Executive Chef for the world-renowned Sardine Factory Restaurant on Cannery Row, who has been named Chef of the Year by the Monterey Bay Chapter of the American Culinary Federation.

Mancuso won high honors at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, graduating in 1990. He also earned an associate's degree in culinary arts, and in April of 2003, he received the prestigious Certified Executive Chef certification from The American Culinary Federation.

His career has taken him to prominent restaurants throughout the United States, giving him a strong background in the diversity of dining styles in this country. According to Mancuso, "California is a culinary mecca and as the Executive Chef at The Sardine Factory, I will have the opportunity to strengthen American cuisine by working with individual agriculture growers. The resources are here—coastal seafood, fresh vegetables, and prime poultry."

His outstanding talents have won him numerous national and international culinary awards, including 13 gold medals in national and international competitions. He is a member of Les Toques Blanches, an honor society of chefs in the United States. In 1996 he was on the Culinary Olympic Team USA, representing 25,000 chefs from the American Culinary Federation.

In addition, Mancuso is a regular participant in fundraising for charity events in the local community and has mentored many students in the culinary field. Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor Chef Robert Mancuso for his many accomplishments, for his dedication to his art, and to express my sincere gratitude for his service to the community.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE 341ST DISTRICT COURT
JUDGE ELMA T. SALINAS ENDER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the important achievements of Judge Elma T. Salinas Ender in Laredo, Texas of my Congressional District.

Appointed as Judge of the 341st District Court by Governor Mark White, Judge Elma T. Salinas Ender became the first Mexican-American woman appointed and elected to a district court bench in state and U.S. history. Her knowledge and commitment that she has brought to the bench has made her an inspiration too many.

Professional activities include: member of the Governor's Juvenile Standards Task Force; the Funding/Judiciary branch of Government in Texas; State Bar of Texas; and has served on the Texas Bar Association council for "Women in Law." Judge Salinas Ender is involved in numerous civic and community activities, i.e. Laredo 1010 Youth Task Force; Communities in Schools; and Leadership Laredo.

She holds a Juris Doctor degree from St. Mary's University School of Law in San Antonio, Texas. Judge Salinas Ender is a fine example to women in our community, demonstrating what hard work and dedication can accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the contributions of Judge Elma T. Salinas Ender.

INTRODUCING THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT ACT

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today Congresswoman NORTON and I have introduced the "Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act". A detailed summary of the bill's provisions is attached.

The bill organizes four regional commissions under a common framework, thereby providing a more uniform method for distributing economic development funds throughout the regions most in need of such assistance. It reauthorizes the Delta Regional Authority and the Northern Great Plains Regional Authority and creates two new regional commissions: the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission and the Southwest Border Regional Commission. Both of these latter commissions have been proposed in legislation introduced in the previous Congress and are designed to address problems of systemic poverty and chronic underdevelopment in those regions. Every county or parish that is currently included in a commission through enacted or proposed legislation is similarly included in that same commission under this bill. While the bill follows the successful organizational model of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), it does not include the ARC or the Denali Commission (a wholly intrastate commission) in its framework.

Regional commissions provide vital assistance to the development of the Nation's most chronically poor and distressed regions. They are true federal-state partnerships, bringing together federal, state, and local governments to expand the economic and development opportunities of a chronically distressed region. These regions typically experience rates of poverty and unemployment that are more than 150 percent of the national average. Further, some of these areas lack the transportation and basic public infrastructure necessary to support business development, and importantly, create jobs in the region.

The regional commissions are designed to assist areas in overcoming chronic economic distress by focusing on the distressed region as a whole. By recognizing that systemic economic distress follows geographic and natural resource realities, rather than arbitrary state or political subdivision borders, the commissions are able to concentrate their efforts over the entire region—regardless of state lines. One way that federally designated regional commissions work within the region to overcome the effects of chronic underdevelopment is through investment in infrastructure, including transportation, telecommunications, and other basic public infrastructure. The commissions also assist the region in obtaining job skills training, entrepreneurship, technology, and business development. Through these efforts, commissions work to improve the economic development of these systemically distressed regions.

Regional commissions also supplement the state share of other federal programs to ensure that areas that do not even have the economic means of meeting a required state or local funding share are not denied the oppor-

tunity to participate in these programs. Regional commissions assist in local development planning by helping provide local development districts with the resources and expertise necessary to formulate and follow a comprehensive, strategic regional development plan. Often it is the local development planning that is the key for the successful implementation of economic and infrastructure development programs.

The Regional and Economic Infrastructure Development Act is modeled after the statute authorizing the ARC. The ARC has demonstrated that regional commissions are successful in fighting chronic underdevelopment and poverty. Since the ARC's creation in 1965, employment in the thirteen-state region has grown by nearly 66 percent. In contrast, in the decade preceding its creation, employment in the region had declined by 1.5 percent. Further, the poverty rate of the region has been cut by more than one half—from 31.1 percent in 1960 to 13.6 percent in 2000.

As the Nation continues to suffer through a weakened economy, the need for these commissions becomes even more important. In February 2005, the national unemployment rate reached 5.4 percent. Further, since January 2001, the number of people unemployed increased from 6 million to 8 million—an increase of 2 million people, or 33 percent. Moreover, workers who have lost their jobs are having more trouble finding new jobs. The average length of unemployment is now almost 20 weeks, and more than one in five unemployed workers have been out of work for more than six months.

As the economy continues to struggle, it is these historically depressed regions—the regions that have already been struggling—that suffer a disproportionate share of the burden. Now, perhaps more than ever, there is a greater need for these regional commissions. This bill recognizes the importance of the regional commissions to these chronically distressed areas. The bill strengthens the commissions by establishing a uniform organizational structure, under which an affirmative vote of a commission requires a majority of state members plus the affirmative vote of the federal cochairperson. With this voting structure, the bill ensures that the federal and state roles in a commission are equal and interdependent, thereby promoting a true federal-state partnership.

In addition, the bill establishes a coordinating council for the regional commissions consisting of representatives from all the commissions, including the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Denali Commission. The coordinating council is directed to meet biannually to discuss issues facing regions that suffer chronic distress and successful strategies for promoting regional development. While the council will assist the commissions in promoting regional development, it has no decision-making authority over any of the commissions.

Finally, the bill authorizes sufficient funds for each commission so that a commission will have the means available to fulfill its mission of promoting economic and infrastructure development. The bill authorizes \$30 million for each commission in fiscal year 2006 (the amount currently authorized for the Delta and Northern Great Plains Regional Authorities) and increases that authorization by \$5 million for each successive year through fiscal year 2010.

Frankly, I am concerned about this Administration's lack of funding for existing regional commissions and lack of interest in promoting economic development programs that create jobs and improve communities. In its fiscal year 2006 budget proposal, the Administration proposes \$6 million for the Delta Regional Authority and only \$1 million for the Northern Great Plains Regional Authority. Further, the Administration's budget proposes to dismantle 18 different economic development programs and instead "consolidate" these programs into a formula-based program housed in the Department of Commerce. Presently these 18 programs include funding for grants and other economic development activities that total \$5.5 billion. The new program will be funded at \$3.7 billion—a reduction of nearly \$2 billion in economic development program funds!

It is time that we affirm our commitment to regional economic development by authorizing these commissions and providing the funding necessary from them to break the cycle of chronic distress in these regions. I believe this bill will help us do that.

SUMMARY OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT ACT

The Regional Economic and Infrastructure Development Act organizes four regional commissions under a common framework, thereby providing a more uniform method for distributing economic assistance throughout the regions most in need of such assistance. It reauthorizes the Delta Regional Authority and the Northern Great Plains Regional Authority and creates two new regional commissions: the Southeast Crescent and the Southwest Border Regional Commission. Both of these latter commissions have been proposed in legislation introduced in the previous Congress and are designed to address problems of systemic poverty and chronic underdevelopment in those regions. Every county or parish that is currently included in a commission through enacted or proposed legislation is similarly included in that same commission under this bill. While the bill follows the successful organizational model of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), it does not include the ARC or the Denali Commission (a wholly intrastate commission) in its framework.

PURPOSE

To organize the regional commissions in the lower 48 states (with the exception of the Appalachian Regional Commission) under a common framework, providing a more uniform organization structure among the commissions and a more uniform method for distributing economic assistance throughout the country.

COMMISSIONS

The bill reauthorizes the Delta Regional Commission and the Northern Great Plains Regional Commission, and creates the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission and the Southwest Border Regional Commission. The Delta Regional Commission and the Northern Great Plains Regional Commission are composed of the same states, counties, and parishes included in the existing Delta Regional Authority and Northern Great Plains Regional Authority. The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission and the Southwest Border Regional Commission are composed of the same states and counties proposed in legislation introduced in the 108th Congress to create a Southeast Crescent Regional Authority and a Southwest Border Regional Commission.

Each commission is authorized to receive appropriations of \$30 million for fiscal year

2006; \$35 million for fiscal year 2007; \$40 million for fiscal year 2008; \$45 million for fiscal year 2009; and \$50 million for fiscal year 2010.

Currently, some counties qualify for membership in more than one regional commission. The bill does not change that. However, the bill provides that an individual county may only receive economic assistance from one regional commission. Therefore, if a county is eligible for membership in more than one commission, it must select one commission in which it would like to participate and be eligible to receive funds. A county or parish can change its selection 90 days before the start of the fiscal year.

The Denali Commission and the Appalachian Regional Commission are not included in this statute.

COMPOSITION

Each commission includes a Federal co-chairperson and a state cochairperson, who is selected from among the state members. Like current law, the Northern Great Plains Commission also includes a tribal cochairperson.

An affirmative vote of a commission requires an affirmative vote of the federal co-chairperson plus a majority of state members.

Like the current laws authorizing regional commissions, the bill sets forth provisions for the salaries of commission members, the appointment of alternatives, and the hiring of additional staff, including an Executive Director.

The bill establishes a coordinating council for the regional commissions consisting of representatives from all the commissions, including the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Denali Commission. The coordinating council is directed to meet biannually to discuss issues facing regions that suffer chronic distress and successful strategies for promoting regional development. The council has no decision-making authority.

Also like current law, each state must develop a comprehensive economic development plan and each commission must develop an economic and infrastructure development plan.

Commissions are required to designate distressed, transitional and attainment counties, and isolated areas of distress within attainment counties, within their region and must allocate at least 50 percent of the appropriations made available to the commission to projects in distressed counties and isolated areas of distress.

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Commissions have the authority to make grants to State and local governments, and public and nonprofit organizations, for economic development projects, with an emphasis on infrastructure projects, including transportation, basic public, and telecommunications infrastructure projects.

The bill provides for a commission share of 50 percent of the costs of projects; that percentage increases to up to 80 percent for distressed counties. These shares are increased by 10 percent (to 60 percent and 90 percent, respectively) for those projects that have a significant regional impact, including projects that involve 3 or more counties or more than one State.

Commissions have the authority to make grants to local development districts to assist in the payment of the administration of the district. The commission of these grants is limited to 80 percent of the administrative expenses of the local development district receiving the grant.

Commissions have the authority to supplement part of the basic Federal contribution to projects authorized under other Federal grant programs and to increase the Federal

contribution above the fixed maximum part of the cost. The Federal share is the same for projects (50 percent and 80 percent for distressed counties, with a 10 percent bonus for regional projects), with the stipulation that the total Federal contribution cannot exceed 80 percent.

IN MEMORY OF THE KURDISH VICTIMS OF MARCH 16, 1988

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in remembering the horrible events that took place in Halabja, Iraq, on March 16, 1988. Today is the 17th anniversary of Saddam Hussein's chemical weapons attack on his own people during a battle waged between a Kurdish force resisting Saddam's oppression and Saddam's Iraqi army. This attack was part of Saddam's systematic genocidal attack on the Kurds known as the Anfal campaign.

In seeking to subdue Kurdish resistance, Saddam Hussein used chemical weapons indiscriminately against Kurdish fighters and civilians alike. The attack on Halabja was one of some forty chemical assaults staged by Hussein against the Kurdish people. In fact, the Kurds of Halabja and neighboring towns constitute the largest civilian population ever exposed to chemical weapons, including sarin, VX, tabun, and mustard gas. As a result of the extensive and devastatingly cruel Anfal campaign, hundreds of Kurdish villages were totally destroyed and as many as 200,000 Kurds were killed.

The tragedy of Halabja should yield lessons for those concerned about responding to future chemical and biological emergencies. The world stood by as innocent men, women, and children suffered and died at the hands of a barbarous regime, and, for 14 long years, the Saddam Hussein dictatorship went unpunished for the murder of hundreds of thousands of innocent Iraqis, the use of banned chemical weapons against Iraqi Kurds, and innumerable other human rights violations. During those 14 years, the number of his victims, Kurdish and non-Kurdish, increased dramatically, as the discovery of mass graves testifies.

Mr. Speaker, now history has avenged Saddam's victims, however belatedly and inadequately, and soon Saddam Hussein will face the consequences of his war crimes. I ask that my colleagues join me in speaking out against oppression and against the use of chemical and biological weapons. That is now the best way to commemorate the suffering of the people of Halabja and all the victims of Saddam's inhuman Anfal campaign and of his subsequent depredations.

TRIBUTE TO SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call your attention to the great South Park

High School in Buffalo, New York which this year is celebrating ninety years of excellence in educating Western New York's young people.

Ninety-one years ago this week, on St. Patrick's Day, the people of South Buffalo broke ground at 150 Southside Parkway for the construction of what would become City of Buffalo Public School Number 206.

That same year, on June 1st, the cornerstone was placed at PS 206, also known as South Park High School, marking the institution as the fifth public high school built in the City of Buffalo.

On September 7, 1915 the doors of South Park opened, welcoming 680 students and 32 faculty members.

Home of the Sparks, the South Park faithful proudly display their school spirit through the black and red tradition.

Over the last nine decades the teachers and administrators at South Park have motivated, nurtured and educated thousands of Buffalo's youth, preparing each for the road ahead and providing all with the tools necessary to pursue a limitless future.

I am proud to call myself an alumnus of South Park and grateful for the wealth of knowledge and values I have obtained through my experiences at the school.

Today, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of Buffalo's South Park High School and wish the institution continued success in instilling pride and excellence in Western New York young people for decades to come.

ON THE INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION URGING TURKEY TO RESPECT THE RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS OF THE ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce a resolution urging Turkey to respect the human rights and religious freedoms of the Ecumenical Patriarch, which are being violated by the Turkish government.

The Ecumenical Patriarch is the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians around the world, including millions of Americans. The Turkish government continuously violates the Ecumenical Patriarch's religious rights and freedoms by refusing to recognize its international status. Training for the clergy has also been effectively banned because the Turkish government refuses to reopen the Greek Orthodox Halki seminary. Furthermore, the Turkish government requires all candidates for the Patriarchate be Turkish nationals, thus severely limiting the field. Additionally, the Turkish government has confiscated 75 percent of Ecumenical Patriarchal properties since 2002 and has levied a 42 percent

retroactive tax on the Balukli Hospital, a philanthropic institution run by the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Meanwhile, Turkey is scheduled to begin accession negotiations with the European Union in October 2005.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation I am introducing today is very simple. This resolution calls on Turkey to meet the criteria on eliminating all forms of discrimination set forth by the European Union, particularly those based on race or religion. This bill urges the Turkish government to grant the Ecumenical Patriarch appropriate international recognition and ecclesiastic succession, the right to train clergy of all nationalities, and demands that Turkey respect the property rights and human rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate. These are simple demands, Mr. Speaker. The path of democracy must be laid with the bricks of freedom and tolerance—without them, democracy becomes a hollow word devoid of promise and hope. We must take a stand for religious rights and freedoms. We must call on Turkey to fulfill its obligations to the European Union and stop violating the human and religious rights of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

STATEMENT BY THE FRIENDS OF IRELAND ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2005

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, the Friends of Ireland in the Congress join 38 million Irish Americans in celebrating the unique ties between America and the island of Ireland. We welcome the Taoiseach Bertie Ahern to the United States, and we send our warmest greetings to all the people of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

Irish Americans care deeply about Northern Ireland, and we commend President Bush for his efforts to keep the American government involved in the pursuit of peace. We also praise Mitchell Reiss, the President's special envoy to Ireland, for his unwavering commitment and his bi-partisan American approach to the process.

We do regret that none of the political parties from Northern Ireland will be represented at the Shamrock Ceremony or the Speaker's Luncheon this year, but this should be taken as a clear signal reflecting the severity of the situation, and the immediate need for all parties to return to the negotiating table.

In 1998, the parties to the Good Friday Agreement committed to partnership, equality and mutual respect as the basis for moving forward. We continue to believe that inclusive power sharing—based on those three defining qualities—is essential to the viability and advancement of the democratic process in Northern Ireland. A political system based on inclusive power sharing requires trust and confidence. The parties to the Good Friday Agreement also affirmed their total and absolute

commitment to exclusively democratic and peaceful means.

The recent events in Northern Ireland involving alleged and admitted criminality by IRA members have put tremendous pressure on all the governments and have seriously undermined the trust and confidence that are essential to advance the process. We deplore this tragic setback. Circumstances on both the Nationalist and Unionist sides have created great chasms of mistrust. Neither side is blameless in this tragic breakdown, and the British, Irish and United States Governments must devote themselves to instill the trust and continue the forward movement.

Clearly, there is essential work to be done in ending all paramilitary activity, permanently restoring the democratic institutions, progressing with demilitarization, and advancing an equality agenda. It is also imperative, in all democratic societies, for all parties to be willing to work with the criminal justice system or in this case the Police Service.

We regret that the dramatic effort to reach an agreement over the Christmas Holiday fell short. The world watched as the framework was set, and all parties were steps away from a victorious moment in history. We must remind all the parties that this framework is still in place and there was a reason why an agreement was almost settled only a few months ago. It is from this point that negotiations must resume.

We commend the Irish and British Governments for their ongoing efforts to work with the political leaders in Northern Ireland to restore the trust and confidence that are essential to advance the peace. On this St. Patrick's Day, we look forward to the day when the Good Friday Agreement will be finally and fully implemented, and to the day when stable democratic institutions, peace, and justice will be achieved in Northern Ireland.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, due to circumstances stemming from the recent birth of my two sons, William and Walter, I was not able to be present for legislative business on the morning of March 16, 2005, during which time the House considered and passed H.R. 1268. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On House Amendment #60 I would have voted "aye."

On the motion to recommit H.R. 1268 to the Committee on Appropriations with instruction to provide an additional \$100 million for veterans healthcare, and \$50 million for veterans job training and transitional assistance, I would have voted "aye."